EXHIBIT 5

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 50 2008 CA 040805XXXX MB

GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

ANN M NEU A/K/A ANN MICHELLE PEREZ; DOUGLAS WILLIAM NEU; UNKNOWN TENANT (S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,

Defendants.

DEPOSITION OF JEFFREY STEPHAN

Thursday, December 10, 2009 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Consor & Associates
1655 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Ste. 500
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Reported By:
Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court Reporter
Notary Public, State of Florida
Consor & Associates
1655 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 500
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561)682-0905

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1	APPEARANCES:	10,50 2
2	On behalf of the Plaintiff:	
3	ALEJANDRA ARROYAVE, ESQ.	
3		
4	Lapin & Leichtling	
4	225 Alahamra Circle	
_	Suite 800	
5	Coral Gables, Florida 33134	
	(305) 569-4100	
6		
7		
8	On behalf of the Defendant:	
9	CHRISTOPHER IMMEL, ESQ.	
	Ice Legal, P.A.	
10	1975 Sansbury's Way	
	Suite 104	
11	West Palm Beach, Florida 33411	
	(561) 798-5658	
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	
3	Deposition taken before Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court
4	Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Florida
5	at Large, in the above cause.
6	
7	THE COURT REPORTER: Do you swear or affirm that
8	the testimony you are about to give will be the truth,
9	the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
10	THE WITNESS: I do.
11	Thereupon,
12	(JEFFREY STEPHAN)
13	having been first duly sworn or affirmed, was examined
14	and testified as follows:
15	DIRECT EXAMINATION
16	BY MR. IMMEL:
17	Q. All right. We are here on GMAC Mortgage, LLC
18	versus Neu. This is the deposition of Jeffrey Stephan.
19	I'm sure your attorney has gone over things with you a
20	little bit. But if you could just keep one thing in
21	mind, to answer, not to simply nod your head or anything
22	like that. We need for your answers to be clear for the
23	court reporter that way.
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Could you please state your name for the

	Page 5
1	record.
2	A. My name is Jeffrey Stephan.
3	Q. Okay. And who do you work for?
4	A. GMAC, LLC.
5	Q. And is there a difference between GMAC, LLC
6	and GMAC Mortgage, LLC?
7	A. GMAC, LLC I'm trying to think of the word
8	to use the most recent name.
9	Q. Okay.
10	A. It's GMCA Mortgage Corporation.
11	Q. Okay.
12	A. I'm not sure how you would word that.
13	Q. Okay. So are they does GMAC, LLC now
14	has that basically taken over these other entities
15	A. Yes.
16	Q that formerly existed?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. So these entities no longer currently exist?
19	A. Right.
20	Q. Okay. And how long then have you been
21	employed by GMAC, LLC?
22	A. Five years.
23	Q. Okay. And prior to that, it was GMAC Mortgage
24	and GMAC Corporation?
25	A. That was as the whole five years.

	Page 6
1	Q. Oh, okay.
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. As the whole five years. And what is your
4	title?
5	A. I'm a team leader in the foreclosure
6	department.
7	Q. Okay. And what are your responsibilities?
8	A. I am the team lead of the document execution
9	unit.
10	Q. Okay.
11	A. And also the service transfer unit.
12	Q. And so what type of documents do you
13	ordinarily execute?
14	A. I execute on a daily basis assignments of
15	mortgage, affidavits of any type that might be needed,
16	deeds. Any type of the document that would need a
17	signature of an officer of GMAC.
18	Q. Okay. And who do you report to?
19	A. I report to Margie Kwiatanowski.
20	Q. Could you spell that?
21	A. Yes. It's K-W-I-A-T-A-N-O-W-S-K-I.
22	Q. Okay. And approximately how many employees
23	does GMAC Mortgage, LLC have?
24	A. I couldn't guess. I don't know.
25	Q. Sure. Okay. And as part of your

	Page 7
1	responsibilities, you execute assignments as a vice
2	president of MERS?
3	A. Yes, that's correct.
4	Q. And in executing affidavits as a vice
5	president, do you receive any compensation from MERS?
6	A. No.
7	Q. Have you had any training from MERS?
8	A. No.
9	Q. Okay. How many documents would you say you
10	sign on an average week as far as executing affidavits
11	and things of that nature?
12	A. It's very tough to estimate that to be honest
13	with you.
14	Q. In a given month, would that be easier to say
15	
16	A. I would say
17	Q one hundred, 500?
18	A in a month, my team brings to me
19	approximately, I'd say a round number of 10,000. That's
20	just an estimate, of course.
21	Q. Okay. And so, 10,000 your team brings to you.
22	How many people do you oversee?
23	A. A team of 13 people.
24	Q. Okay. Now, would these people be given the
25	duties of actually preparing the documents that you

	Page 8
1	ultimately sign and execute?
2	A. They would review the document that is given
3	to them through our computer systems.
4	Q. Okay.
5	A. So they don't actually prepare it per se.
6	They review it for the accuracy of what type of entity
7	I'm signing as.
8	Q. Okay. How many different entities do you sign
9	as?
10	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
11	BY MR. IMMEL:
12	Q. Can you name what entities you sign
13	A. I sign presently as MERS.
14	Q. Okay.
15	A. And under MERS as vice president or an
16	assistant secretary. Also, I sign for GMAC Mortgage.
17	And to be honest with you, it's too many entities for me
18	to actually quote under GMAC. But it is as a limited
19	signing officer.
20	Q. Okay. And earlier you stated that right now
21	it's GMAC, LLC.
22	A. Uh-huh.
23	Q. You do still currently sign documents as GMAC
24	Mortgage, LLC?
25	A. Yes, I do.

	Page 9
1	Q. Okay. And also as a corporation
2	A. Yes.
3	Q and some of the others that we've seen your
4	signature on?
5	A. Yes, I do.
6	Q. Okay. Where then does the information that
7	goes into the system that your team reviews
8	A. Yes.
9	Q where does that information come from?
10	A. The process that we use is and this is to
11	my knowledge a file is referred to a foreclosure
12	attorney stating exactly what entity would be needed
13	through the referral unit. And at that point, the
14	attorney receives the file to proceed with the
15	foreclosure. That foreclosure name is generated upon
16	GMAC supplying it on the referral. I'm not 100 percent
17	sure of what that process is.
18	Q. Okay.
19	A. The documentation, as you stated, that you're
20	asking about, is given to us after the attorney has been
21	instructed on what name to foreclose in.
22	Q. And who instructs the attorney as to what name
23	to foreclose it in?
24	A. It comes to our referral unit. Which is
25	another process to my knowledge.

	Page 10
1	Q. Okay. Approximately, if 10,000 are signed in
2	a given month, you know, on an average, how long would
3	you say you spend executing each one and actually
4	signing?
5	A. It's tough to say.
6	Q. Okay. Would it be accurate to say that when
7	these documents have been presented to you by your team
8	
9	A. Uh-huh.
10	Q you take the face value that they are
11	they have been checked by your team?
12	A. That would be a correct statement, yes.
13	Q. So these documents wouldn't be actually
14	executed on your own personal knowledge?
15	A. Right.
16	Q. It would be based on knowledge that came
17	through
18	A. Right.
19	Q the chain
20	A. I'm sorry.
21	MS. ARROYAVE: Can I interrupt just for a
22	second? I just want to make sure that he finishes
23	his question before you answer.
24	THE WITNESS: Sure. Sorry.
25	

Page 11 BY MR. IMMEL: 1 Yes, yes, that's true, too. Ο. 3 So the information that your team obtains isn't based on their personal knowledge either, it's 4 located within the computer networks? 5 MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form. 6 7 BY MR. IMMEL: The information on the documents that you 8 Q. execute is stored within your data base? 9 No, somewhere else. 10 Okay. The information then is that --11 Ο. your team, they get that from a computer network that 12 you have, correct? 13 Α. 14 No. Where does your team get that information? 15 That information is first given to the 16 attorney to foreclose under which name as needed. 17 If we are stating some type of assignment, for example, the 18 19 attorney, to my knowledge, and I'm not 100 percent sure of their process because I don't work for the attorney, 20 21 they would do a title check to verify what name the lien is presently in. 22 23 Ο. Okay. At that point is when it would initial if an 24 25 assignment would be needed or not.

	Page 12
1	Q. So at the direction of the attorney, your team
2	creates these documents and then you execute them?
3	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
4	BY MR. IMMEL:
5	Q. So your team executes documents at the request
6	of attorneys?
7	MS. ARROYAVE: Objecting: Form. You can
8	still answer it if you understand the question.
9	BY MR. IMMEL:
10	Q. Do you understand what I'm asking?
11	A. Yes, I understand what you're asking. My team
12	does not create any documents.
13	Q. These documents are then sent from the
14	attorney?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. Okay. And you're so then the team that you
17	oversee
18	A. Uh-huh.
19	Q simply reviews them for accuracy?
20	A. That's correct.
21	Q. Okay. And how do they verify the information
22	is accurate?
23	A. They do not go into the system and verify the
24	information as accurate. We are relying on our attorney
25	network to ensure that they are asking for the correct

	Page 13
1	information.
2	Q. So the attorney creates these documents and
3	you are relying that the attorney is correct?
4	A. Yes.
5	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
6	BY MR. IMMEL:
7	Q. Okay. And then they are required to be
8	notarized. Are they notarized in your office?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. Is the notary present with you or is it down
11	the hall?
12	A. The notary is in the same department.
13	Q. Same department. Okay. Are they physically
14	present when you (sic) notarize this or when they
15	notarize and then you execute it?
16	A. No, they are not physically present. But I
17	will I do deliver them to the notary.
18	Q. All right.
19	A. And I wait for them to notarize it to hand
20	them back to my team.
21	Q. Okay. All right. What department then? You
22	said your department?
23	A. Right.
24	Q. And as part of their job responsibilities,
25	would notarizing be their sole responsibility, or do

	Page 14
1	they have other responsibilities?
2	A. They have other responsibilities.
3	Q. Are any of the members of your team, people
4	that also notarize documents that you execute?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Yes. Okay. Is there a job requirement that
7	certain employees become notaries?
8	A. I don't know.
9	Q. Okay. And what type of what level of a
10	type of employee would it typically be that is a notary?
11	A. I don't know that either.
12	Q. All right. Does the company pay for the
13	process of becoming a notary or the renewal fees?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Okay. If a notary feels that they are being
16	asked to notarize something that's done improperly, is
17	there a process which they can, you know, raise that to
18	anybody's attention?
19	A. I honestly don't know.
20	Q. You are not sure. Do you notarize any
21	assignments of mortgage or other documents yourself?
22	A. No.
23	Q. Are you a notary?
24	A. No.
25	Q. How are witnesses ordinarily chosen?

	Page 15
1	MS. ARROYAVE: Object: Form.
2	Chosen for what?
3	BY MR. IMMEL:
4	Q. The witnesses to, say, the assignments of the
5	mortgage, and the witnesses of things that you execute.
6	A. They are just chosen randomly.
7	Q. Chosen randomly. Okay. Approximately how
8	many days a week do you spend executing assignments,
9	affidavits, and the various documents that you execute?
10	A. Five.
11	Q. Five. Okay. Are there any specific days
12	where it's one day these types of documents, this type
13	of documents, or can it be just a mix?
14	A. It's a mix.
15	Q. Okay. Approximately how many documents would
16	you say are presented to you by your team at a given
17	time? Is it one at a time, or ten at a time?
18	A. It is done in bulk.
19	Q. Done in bulk.
20	A. I could not quote you the exact number.
21	Q. Okay. Going back to the signing officer as
22	Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, you said that
23	you are you sign as both vice president and as an
24	assistant secretary?
25	A. That is correct.

Page 16 Is there any basis for one -- you sign as one 1 Q. versus the other? 2. 3 The majority of the time I sign as a vice president. Most times we do not need an assistant 4 secretary, unless they are asking for a second signature 5 on any type of an affidavit or assignment. 6 7 Okay. And, again, you are not paid by MERS. Ο. Do you hold any other responsibilities with MERS that 8 would be consistent with having the title of a vice 9 president? 10 Α. 11 No. Okay. So you don't attend any board 12 0. No. meetings for MERS? 13 Α. No. 14 You don't report to the secretary of MERS or 15 any other people at MERS? 16 17 Α. No. How did you become a MERS representative? 18 Ο. 19 you request to be a vice president of MERS? I received the responsibility as being the 20 21 team lead for document executing. It was assigned to me 22 by our legal area. 23 Ο. Okay. All right. So your responsibilities as a vice president of MERS to execute the assignments is 24 25 really your job perspective, or an aspect of your job at

	Page 17
1	GMAC Mortgage, LLC or GMAC, LLC?
2	A. That is correct.
3	Q. Okay. And you've never been to any MERS
4	offices or their headquarters?
5	A. No.
6	Q. Are you aware of why you were given the title
7	of vice president versus assistant secretary or
8	A. No, I'm not aware of that.
9	Q. Okay. All right. I have here the assignment
10	of mortgage which you executed in this case.
11	A. Okay.
12	MR. IMMEL: I'll enter that as Exhibit A.
13	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter A was marked for
14	identification.)
15	MR. IMMEL: I have a copy for you, as well.
16	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
17	BY MR. IMMEL:
18	Q. In the top left-hand corner it says, Record
19	and return to offices of Marshall C. Watson.
20	Based on your earlier statements, it's
21	accurate to say that attorneys at Marshall C. Watson
22	created the information on this document?
23	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
24	THE WITNESS: That would be correct.
25	

	Page 18
1	BY MR. IMMEL:
2	Q. Okay. And who so an attorney chose the
3	date of the 4th day of March, 2009.
4	Can you tell me the date actually. Whether
5	that's the 3rd or the 5th of March.
6	A. To me it seems to be the 5th.
7	Q. Okay.
8	A. Actually, excuse me, let me change that. It
9	would have to be the 3rd, because the notary did it on
10	the 4th.
11	Q. Okay. And that is your signature on this
12	document?
13	A. That is correct.
14	Q. Okay. Is it commonplace then for the notary
15	to notarize a document the day after you've apparently
16	executed it?
17	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
18	THE WITNESS: I would say, yes, it would be
19	common.
20	BY MR. IMMEL:
21	Q. Okay. So typically when you hand these off to
22	the notary, and then they kind of catch up?
23	A. Uh-huh. Yes.
24	Q. Okay. The witnesses, Heather Reinhart, do you
25	know her personally?

		Page 19
1	Α.	Yes, she is one of my employees.
2	Q.	Is she on your team?
3	Α.	Yes.
4	Q.	Is it possible that she would have been one of
5	the people	e who reviewed this for accuracy?
6	Α.	That is possible.
7	Q.	And the other person appears to be Tyra
8	Wilks	
9	Α.	Wilson.
10	Q.	Tyra Wilson. Okay. Is she also a member of
11	your team?	
12	Α.	Yes.
13	Q.	And you know her personally, as well?
14	А.	Yes.
15	Q.	The notary, Susan Turner, is she a member of
16	your team?	
17	Α.	No, she is not.
18	Q.	Do you know her personally?
19	Α.	Yes.
20	Q.	It says here that you personally appeared
21	before her	on the 4th day of March. Is it possible that
22	you execut	ted then on the 3rd, and handed it to her and
23	then you v	weren't personally in front of her at the time
24	she notari	zed this?
25	A.	I don't know. I can't recollect.

	Page 20
1	Q. All right. And how did you determine on this
2	to execute it to GMAC Mortgage, LLC?
3	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
4	THE WITNESS: I'm not sure if I understand the
5	question.
6	BY MR. IMMEL:
7	Q. Okay. Did you have any say in the creation of
8	who MERS would assign this to?
9	A. No.
10	Q. No. Your attorney, the Law Office of Marshall
11	C. Watson, determined that?
12	A. No.
13	Q. No.
14	A. That is, as I stated earlier, when the
15	foreclosure referral goes out, the referral unit
16	determines what entity they should be foreclosing on.
17	Q. Okay. And the foreclosure referral unit that
18	you speak of, is that part of your department?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. Okay. So would they have records that they
21	are able to refer to to determine who the new mortgagee
22	should be according to these assignments?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And who do you have a name of any person
25	that keeps those documents?

	Page 21
1	A. The team lead for that would be Brenda.
2	Q. Brenda?
3	A. Her last name is Staehle, S-T-A-E-H-L-E.
4	Q. Okay.
5	A. I think that's the way it's spelled.
6	Q. Can you tell me you really don't have any
7	knowledge or information as to who should be the
8	mortgagee? According to this document, you take it for
9	face value; is that correct?
10	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
11	THE WITNESS: Can you explain that further?
12	BY MR. IMMEL:
13	Q. You take it for face value that GMAC Mortgage,
14	LLC is expected to be the mortgagee?
15	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
16	BY MR. IMMEL:
17	Q. Who would have information who who MERS
18	should assign this to? Would it be you or Brenda
19	Staehle?
20	A. Brenda Staehle would be the individual or her
21	team to refer the files, and they determine what name
22	should be foreclosing in.
23	Q. Okay. So everything from that point on is
24	based on the presumption that her team has ascertained
25	those things to be correct?

Page 22 Α. That is correct. 1 MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: 2. 3 BY MR. IMMEL: All right. Okay. So on March 5th, 2009, 4 Ο. you're not aware --5 Α. I believe it's the 3rd. 6 7 March 3rd. I'm sorry. March 3rd, 2009, Ο. you're not aware of any physical transfer of the 8 9 mortgage? Can you rephrase that? I'm not following. 10 Are you aware of any reason why the assignment 11 Ο. of mortgage had to be executed on March 5th, 2009 -- or 12 the 3rd, 2009? I'm sorry. 13 Α. We have a process that's set up with our 14 attorney network. And Marshall Watson is in that 15 attorney network. The file is referred to them with a 16 17 certain name to proceed with the foreclosure in. will pull title. And whatever they see title is in, in 18 19 order to proceed in the proper name, they need to get an assignment. In this instance it's MERS to GMAC. 20 21 Okay. Are the assignments supposed to be 22 completed prior to the filing of the foreclosure 23 lawsuit? MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: 24 Form. 25

	Page 23
1	BY MR. IMMEL:
2	Q. Are you aware if it's a company policy at
3	least?
4	A. I don't know.
5	Q. Okay. So as this assignment of mortgage, on
6	the face of it, transfers from Mortgage Electronic
7	Registration Systems as nominee for Mortgage Investors
8	Corporation to GMAC Mortgage, LLC on March 3rd, 2009,
9	would it be accurate to say that prior to that, this
10	assignment, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems was
11	the mortgagee?
12	A. No.
13	Q. No. Okay. Why would that not be accurate to
14	say?
15	A. Mortgage Electronic Registration, to my
16	knowledge, is an origination entity to allow the passing
17	of assignments through performing loans to make it more
18	easier, I guess you would say, to transfer amongst
19	different companies. MERS does not own loans.
20	Q. They wouldn't own the loan. But they would
21	own the mortgage; is that correct?
22	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
23	THE WITNESS: It's not correct, no.
24	BY MR. IMMEL:
25	Q. No. So they are the named mortgagee, so that

	Page 24
1	when the note is passed from entity to entity it doesn't
2	have to be rerecorded?
3	A. That is to my knowledge, yes.
4	Q. All right. On this it also says that MERS is
5	assigning the mortgage together with the note. I don't
6	know if you see that line there. It's right there
7	(indicating).
8	As you just stated, MERS has no interest in
9	the note ever; is that correct?
10	A. I honestly don't know.
11	Q. Oh, okay. As far as you're aware
12	A. Yes.
13	Q MERS doesn't
14	A. As far as I'm aware. (Witness nods head.)
15	Q. Okay. Are you aware of whether that's common
16	language to exist in the assignments that you execute?
17	A. I honestly don't know.
18	Q. You're not sure. Okay. All right.
19	MR. IMMEL: And I have a copy of the first
20	page of the mortgage here. Which I'll enter as
21	ExhibitB.
22	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter B was marked for
23	identification.)
24	BY MR. IMMEL:
25	Q. If you will notice it says that the mortgagee

	Page 25
1	according to the mortgage is Mortgage Electronic
2	Registration Systems.
3	I believe it's right down there (indicating).
4	A. I disagree with that interpretation.
5	MS. ARROYAVE: Was there a question?
6	MR. IMMEL: Yes.
7	MS. ARROYAVE: What was the question?
8	BY MR. IMMEL:
9	Q. According to the mortgage, it says that MERS
10	is the mortgagee?
11	A. My interpretation, it says right in the same
12	paragraph, it says they are a nominee for the lender or
13	the lender successors.
14	Q. Right. Okay. They are the mortgagee as
15	nominee
16	A. Uh-huh.
17	Q for the lenders?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Okay. But they are a different entity from
20	the lender and lender successors and things?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Okay. What does nominee in that regards mean?
23	A. I don't know.
24	Q. Okay. We can move on from there.
25	I have here which I'll enter as Exhibit

	Page 26
1	C some discovery that we received from MERS.
2	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter C was marked for
3	identification.)
4	BY MR. IMMEL:
5	Q. And if you will turn to the second page. It
6	is the document entitled, Min Summary.
7	And have you ever seen these records before?
8	A. No, I have not.
9	Q. So in executing the assignments of mortgage on
10	behalf of MERS, do you consult any of MERS' records?
11	A. No.
12	Q. And you are not able to tell me what any of
13	these entries would then mean? This is the first time
14	you have seen this type of information?
15	A. In this format, yes.
16	Q. Okay. Have you seen this type of information
17	in other formats?
18	A. Some of it. I understand what they mean as
19	far as the acronyms in there.
20	Q. Okay. Based on your understanding, the
21	investor says the investor is identified as
22	Government National Mortgage Association - Ginnie Mae.
23	What does the word "investor" mean in MERS' acronym?
24	Are you aware?
25	A. I'm not sure how I can explain it. GMAC would

	Page 27
1	be the holder and the owner of the mortgage. GMAC would
2	be the investor who is in the organization that
3	contributed the fund. That's really the only way I can
4	explain the relationship of an investor and servicer.
5	Q. Okay.
6	A. But that's only to my knowledge. I mean, I
7	don't work in that fashion.
8	Q. Okay. So the servicer is supposed to take on
9	the day-to-day activities of administering the mortgage
10	of loan and collecting payments and so forth?
11	A. That would be correct.
12	Q. And they do that on behalf of the investor who
13	loaned the monies?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Okay. And any monies that are received from
16	the servicers, would they really be for the investor
17	then to pay him back the loan?
18	A. I don't know.
19	Q. Okay. And as custodian, also, that would mean
20	that they are in possession of the mortgage file,
21	essentially, the note and any other applicable
22	documents?
23	A. That's correct.
24	Q. Okay. All right. Where it has the pool
25	number and it is blacked out. Do you know what the pool

	Page 28
1	number refers to?
2	A. No, I don't.
3	Q. No. Okay. And what about the investor loan
4	number?
5	A. Yes, I understand what that is.
6	Q. And what would that relate to?
7	A. Every investor would have their own loan
8	number. The same as GMAC would have their own loan
9	number to classify the different files.
10	Q. Okay. And are you aware of how a mortgage
11	that has been securitized, a mortgage note that's been
12	securitized, would be reflected on something like this,
13	on this summary?
14	A. I am not familiar.
15	Q. You are not familiar. Okay. Are you aware of
16	anyone at GMAC Mortgage, LLC that has access to these
17	MERS documents and records?
18	A. No, I'm not.
19	Q. You are not aware. Okay. Are you aware of
20	anybody at GMAC that would have a responsibility to
21	update the MERS documentation?
22	A. No.
23	Q. Okay. So the various individuals at GMAC that
24	execute assignments on behalf of MERS have no
25	responsibility to update the MERS' system that they had

	Page 29
1	actually done those assignments or anything like that?
2	A. That would be correct.
3	Q. Okay. Are you aware then of how the MERS'
4	system is updated?
5	A. No.
6	Q. Okay. As a vice president, do you owe a
7	fiduciary duty to the original lender to ensure that the
8	mortgage is assigned to the proper entity?
9	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
10	THE WITNESS: I actually don't understand your
11	question.
12	BY MR. IMMEL:
13	Q. Do you own any duty to the when you assign
14	these mortgages, you execute them as for MERS as
15	nominee for a particular entity, correct?
16	A. That would be correct.
17	Q. Do you owe any responsibility then to that
18	particular entity that MERS is nominee for to ensure
19	that the mortgage is transferred to the new correct
20	entity?
21	A. I don't know.
22	Q. Okay. All right.
23	MR. IMMEL: I have the corporate resolution
24	here. Which I'll enter it as Exhibit D.
25	

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	Page 30
1	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter D was marked for
2	identification.)
3	BY MR. IMMEL:
4	Q. Have you seen this document before?
5	A. Yes, I have.
6	Q. When was the first time you saw it?
7	A. I'm sorry, I can't say. I don't recollect.
8	Q. You're not sure. Is it fair to say it was
9	quite a while ago?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Did you have any role in creating it or
12	negotiating it?
13	A. No, I did not.
14	Q. No. Okay. The first paragraph says that you
15	are authorized to assign a lien of any mortgage loan
16	registered on the MERS register to the member.
17	Who would be the member according to this?
18	Would that be GMAC Mortgage, LLC?
19	A. I don't know.
20	Q. Okay. Assign the lien, in paragraph 2, of any
21	mortgage loan naming MERS as the mortgagee when the
22	member is also the current promissory note-holder, or if
23	the mortgage loan is registered on the MERS system, is
24	shown to be registered to the member.
25	When you are assigning liens, you already

	Page 31
1	stated that you don't consult with any of the MERS
2	records to determine whether or not it's registered to
3	who whoever?
4	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form. Asked and
5	answered. Mischaracterization of prior testimony.
6	BY MR. IMMEL:
7	Q. Okay. You don't consult MERS system when
8	assigned these liens?
9	A. Yes.
10	MS. ARROYAVE: Asked and answered.
11	BY MR. IMMEL:
12	Q. All right. Okay. But is it fair to say that
13	you don't ascertain whether the member is the current
14	promissory note-holder when you assign the lien?
15	A. That would be correct.
16	Q. And you also don't know if the mortgage loan
17	is registered on the MERS system?
18	A. We are relying on our attorney network when
19	they check the title
20	Q. Okay.
21	A to verify what title it is presently in.
22	If it is MERS, we would sign for MERS.
23	Q. Okay.
24	MR. IMMEL: Exhibit E.
25	

	Page 32
1	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter E was marked for
2	identification.)
3	BY MR. IMMEL:
4	Q. Here is the GMAC Mortgage, LLC certificate of
5	assistant secretary. Here you go.
6	And you are considered a limited signing
7	officer giving you basically the same responsibility as
8	a junior officer?
9	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
10	THE WITNESS: I don't know if that's a correct
11	statement.
12	BY MR. IMMEL:
13	Q. Okay. Are you familiar with this document?
14	A. I have a copy of this document. Which to my
15	recollection means that next to my name it gives me the
16	authority to sign for GMAC and its entities as a limited
17	signing officer.
18	Q. Okay. In this case, you also filed an
19	affidavit of lost original document?
20	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
21	BY MR. IMMEL:
22	Q. Okay. And you executed this document. Is
23	this your signature? Here is a copy of it.
24	MR. IMMEL: I'll enter this as Exhibit F, I
25	believe.

	Page 33
1	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter F was marked for
2	identification.)
3	THE WITNESS: Yes, that is my signature.
4	BY MR. IMMEL:
5	Q. Okay. And you signed this affidavit claiming
6	that at the time plaintiff was not presently in custody
7	or control of plaintiff or any of plaintiff's agents,
8	and that would be the note that was not in your their
9	custody or control?
10	A. Yes. Once again, we have a process in place
11	where if our attorney needs an original document, they
12	open up a request in our system. At that time, we have
13	another unit which is not located in Pennsylvania
14	where I am located contact custodians, contact their
15	own records, go to different investors. They do not do
16	an affidavit of this fashion unless they've exhausted
17	all efforts.
18	Q. Okay. Would it be fair to say that you're not
19	involved in any of those efforts?
20	A. That is fair to say.
21	Q. Okay. Why then do they ask you to execute the
22	affidavit of lost document lost original document?
23	A. They asked me to execute this for the
24	foreclosure department. Because after conversations
25	between the attorney and this other department, they

Page 34 1 determine that it is not available. I am the foreclosure team lead that handles document execution. 2. Okay. So would it be accurate to say that the 3 department that actually searches for the lost note 4 would have a better understanding of why it's lost and 5 where the search occurred? 6 That is a fair statement. 7 Α. Okay. It says that the copy of said note 8 Q. attached to the complaint is a true and correct and 9 substantial copy of the lost or destroyed note. 10 Do you review any documents before executing 11 the affidavits of lost original documents? 12 Α. No, I do not. I review this. Let me change 13 this. Excuse me. I do review this. However, I do not 14 review any documents. I rely, once again, on my 15 attorney network who is requesting the document, and 16 communications between the departments to determine if 17 it's -- if a lost affidavit is needed. 18 19 Ο. Okay. So the portion that sets claims in paragraph 1: Affiant has custody and personal knowledge 20 21 of the account pertaining the original mortgage loan instruments. Affiant has actual and personal knowledge 22 23 of the facts stated herein and is authorized to make this affidavit. Would that be accurate? 24 25 Α. Yes, that is accurate.

	Page 35
1	Q. You being the affiant have custody and
2	personal knowledge of the account pertaining to the
3	original mortgage loan instruments?
4	MS. ARROYAVE: Object to the form. Go ahead.
5	THE WITNESS: I do not have the specific
6	knowledge to this one account. But I understand
7	what the other department does in general to try to
8	locate these documents.
9	BY MR. IMMEL:
10	Q. Okay. All right. And so in this particular
11	case, the there was no note attached to the
12	complaint. You would have no way of ascertaining that
13	because you don't actually review?
14	A. That, once again, is determined by our
15	attorneys' office.
16	Q. Okay. I'm going to just I have a
17	substantial copy of the complaint. And just to show
18	that there is no note attached to it, that was the
19	original filing of the complaint.
20	You have never reviewed that, nor do you
21	review any other note to determine whether it is, in
22	fact, a true, correct and substantial copy of the lost
23	or destroyed note?
24	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
25	THE WITNESS: Can you rephrase that for me? I

	Page 36
1	don't completely follow what you are saying.
2	BY MR. IMMEL:
3	Q. When you execute the affidavit of lost
4	original document, and make the claim that you've seen a
5	copy of the note that is attached and that's a
6	substantial copy, you really have no basis for making
7	that claim.
8	THE WITNESS: I'm still not following.
9	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
10	BY MR. IMMEL:
11	Q. When the complaint in this case was filed,
12	there was no note attached to the complaint, correct?
13	A. From what you have just handed to me, there is
14	no note.
15	Q. Okay. Based on what I've provided you.
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Do you normally review notes to make sure that
18	they are a true copy of the lost note?
19	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
20	THE WITNESS: That is no, I do not. It is
21	not in my position.
22	BY MR. IMMEL:
23	Q. It's not in your position.
24	MR. IMMEL: All right. I guess I can enter
25	this a Exhibit G.

	Page 37
1	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter G was marked for
2	identification.)
3	BY MR. IMMEL:
4	Q. And going back, just for a second, to the lost
5	note affidavit. That is your signature?
6	A. Yes, that's correct.
7	Q. And your understanding is that the attorney
8	representing from your network drafts this?
9	A. That is correct.
10	Q. Okay.
11	MR. IMMEL: This is going to be Exhibit H.
12	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter H was marked for
13	identification.)
14	BY MR. IMMEL:
15	Q. This is a copy of the note filed after the
16	complaint in this case. I don't have the notice of
17	filing page.
18	Have you ever seen this document before?
19	A. I have seen these documents. I have not seen
20	this document.
21	Q. Okay. And this wouldn't have been the
22	document that you reviewed in executing the lost note
23	affidavit?
24	A. No. We do not once again, we do not review
25	the note. Our attorney determines that the note is not

	Page 38
1	available through our processes.
2	Q. Okay.
3	MR. IMMEL: This would be Exhibit I.
4	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter I was marked for
5	identification.)
6	BY MR. IMMEL:
7	Q. This is the newly found note. Here. And as
8	you can see, if you could compare the two notes, one has
9	a couple of additional endorsements. Whereas, the
10	previous one did not. Is that correct?
11	A. That is what I observe here, yes.
12	Q. Okay. In the review of the two notes and the
13	endorsements that are on them, have you seen this type
14	of situation before where one note that's been filed in
15	the case is partially endorsed and the other is a more
16	complete record of endorsements?
17	A. No, I have not.
18	Q. In following along the endorsements, can you
19	determine who was the last owner of the note prior to
20	your companies?
21	A. I'm sorry. Can you rephrase that for me?
22	Q. Can you determine who GMAC Mortgage, LLC has
23	acquired the mortgage note from?
24	A. The first endorsement I see here has a date.
25	It says, Mortgage Investor Corporation. It's signed on

	Page 39
1	February 27th, I believe, that's 2002.
2	Q. All right. And they were the original lender.
3	And then, as you can see, there is another endorsement
4	there to, I believe, GMAC Mortgage Corporation. And
5	there is also one GMAC Bank. Correct?
6	A. That is correct according to the observation
7	that I see on this document.
8	Q. So would you need an assignment from why do
9	you assign the MERS as a vice president of MERS, why
10	do you assign the MERS I'm sorry. Let me start over
11	there.
12	Why do you execute the assignment of mortgage
13	on behalf of MERS as nominee for the original lender and
14	not the last lender?
15	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
16	THE WITNESS: Because as you stated, it's an
17	assignment of mortgage. It's not an assignment of
18	note.
19	BY MR. IMMEL:
20	Q. Right.
21	A. That's the only way I can answer that. The
22	mortgage itself, which we've both reviewed, states that
23	it's MERS as a nominee for Mortgage Investor
24	Corporation.
25	Q. Okay. So would you agree then that as the

	Page 40
1	note was transferred through these endorsements to new
2	note-holders and owners that MERS remained the
3	mortgagee?
4	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
5	THE WITNESS: I wouldn't have that knowledge.
6	BY MR. IMMEL:
7	Q. Okay. It's your understanding that MERS does
8	not assign the mortgage every time the note is
9	transferred; is that correct?
10	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form.
11	THE WITNESS: I wouldn't have that knowledge
12	either.
13	BY MR. IMMEL:
14	Q. Okay. All right. Do you know who would have
15	that knowledge?
16	A. No, I do not.
17	Q. Okay. All right.
18	MR. IMMEL: And we have here defendant's
19	request for production regarding the Jeffrey
20	Stephan documents. That will be Exhibit J.
21	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter J was marked for
22	identification.)
23	BY MR. IMMEL:
24	Q. Have you seen that document before?
25	A. I have not seen this document until recently

	Page 41
1	when I found out that I was coming here.
2	Q. Okay. And also we have the response to the
3	request for production regarding the Jeffrey Stephan
4	document.
5	MR. IMMEL: That will be marked as Exhibit K.
6	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter K was marked for
7	identification.)
8	BY MR. IMMEL:
9	Q. I'm going to direct you to paragraph 5 where
10	there has been an objection based on our request for all
11	MERS system documents, records, computer data, or other
12	MERS information reviewed by Jeffrey Stephan prior to
13	executing the assignment of mortgage filed in this case
14	to determine the proper SNE.
15	It's been objected to as vague and ambiguous
16	and improperly presumes that plaintiff has custody or
17	control over any MERS system documents.
18	As a MERS vice president, you don't have
19	access to any MERS system documents?
20	A. No, I do not.
21	Q. Okay.
22	A. I do not work for MERS.
23	Q. Okay. And so you don't actually review any
24	documents prior to executing the assignment of mortgage?
25	MS. ARROYAVE: Asked and answered.

Page 42 1 BY MR. IMMEL: Okay. And are there any -- do you receive any 2. 0. 3 letters, e-mails, or other correspondence from other departments that have given you any instruction on any 4 of the documents which you execute? 5 Α. No. 6 7 And in paragraphs -- request No. 7, as far as the search for the lost note, you didn't actually 8 9 partake in that search. So you are not aware of any of the locations searched, other than by other people? 10 That's correct. 11 Α. Do you know who those people would be that 12 Ο. searched for the note? 13 There is a team that's in our Minnesota Α. 14 I am not familiar with who would actually 15 search for the said document. 16 17 What is the name of that team? Do you know the name of that team? 18 I don't have a formal name for them. 19 I call them document control. But that's my own name for them. 20 21 Q. Okay. All right. You said that the attorneys representing you prior in this case only ask you to 22 execute the lost note affidavit after a substantial 23 effort has occurred? 24 25 MS. ARROYAVE: Objection. That goes into the

	Page 43
1	attorney-client privilege.
2	BY MR. IMMEL:
3	Q. As far as you understand, a substantial search
4	for the lost note has already occurred by various people
5	within your team, other teams within GMAC at the request
6	of the attorneys?
7	A. Within GMAC the lost note affidavit or lost
8	instrument affidavit would not be executed until
9	everything has been exhausted.
10	Q. Okay. Is it common for a lost note affidavit
11	to be executed and then later the note to be found?
12	A. I don't know.
13	Q. You're not sure. Okay. Earlier you were
14	mentioning that now you work for GMAC, LLC; is that
15	correct?
16	A. That is correct.
17	Q. And you still execute documents as GMAC
18	Mortgage, LLC limited signing officers, as well?
19	A. That's the same thing you just stated.
20	Q. Right. One they dropped the name the
21	mortgage from the name, and one they haven't; is that
22	correct?
23	A. No.
24	Q. No.
25	A. One they dropped corporation and changed it to

	Page 44
1	LLC.
2	Q. Oh, okay.
3	A. They became a limited liability company.
4	That's what LLC stands for.
5	Q. Okay. You said that there was an initially
6	there was a referral from the referral department to the
7	attorneys?
8	A. That would be correct.
9	Q. Do you ever review any of those documents in
10	your duties as executing these other documents?
11	A. No.
12	Q. So I'm going to turn to the this is the
13	note of authenticity ownership interrogatories limited
14	answers. Here you are.
15	MR. IMMEL: That will be Exhibit L.
16	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter L was marked for
17	identification.)
18	BY MR. IMMEL:
19	Q. Do you know, I think, it is Juan A. Aquirre?
20	A. I do not know him. But I am familiar with his
21	name.
22	Q. Okay. Are you familiar with his duties? He's
23	a senior litigation analyst.
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Do you know if he's a senior litigation

	Page 45
1	analyst for GMAC Mortgage, LLC, or are there other
2	entities that he works for?
3	A. I honestly do not know.
4	Q. Okay. Would he be part of the document team
5	in Minnesota that may find a note?
6	A. No.
7	Q. No. Okay. Would he be somebody, do you know,
8	if in his duties he's somebody that searches for lost
9	documents?
10	A. No.
11	Q. Okay.
12	MS. ARROYAVE: Is that, no, you don't know?
13	THE WITNESS: No. He does not do that.
14	BY MR. IMMEL:
15	Q. He doesn't do that. Do you know what his
16	duties are?
17	A. As it states here, he is a senior litigation
18	analyst. I'm not sure of what his exact
19	responsibilities would be.
20	Q. Okay. But searching for lost documents
21	wouldn't be one of his responsibilities, more than
22	likely?
23	A. No, it would not be.
24	Q. Okay. And here are plaintiff's amended
25	answers. Okay.

	Page 46
1	MR. IMMEL: I'll mark it as Exhibit M.
2	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter M was marked for
3	identification.)
4	BY MR. IMMEL:
5	Q. It asks to identify all persons and/or
6	entities who are the current beneficial owners of, or
7	who have a beneficial or equitable interest in the
8	promissory note. And Federal National Mortgage
9	Association has been identified, Fannie Mae.
10	Are you aware and then if you look at No.
11	3, it says, Please identify all person and/or entities
12	who are current legal owners of, or who have legal
13	interest in the promissory note.
14	A. I don't have the same affidavit you have.
15	Q. Okay. Defendant's note. Do you have the
16	mortgage loan?
17	A. That's the mortgage loan.
18	Q. Okay.
19	MS. ARROYAVE: What has been introduced? Has
20	this set of interrogatory been
21	MR. IMMEL: Yes.
22	MS. ARROYAVE: But not the other?
23	MR. IMMEL: No. This was also entered,
24	correct?
25	THE COURT REPORTER: I think it was the last

	Page 47
1	one.
2	BY MR. IMMEL:
3	Q. So if you look at paragraphs 2 and 3, can you
4	explain to me why Fannie Mae would have the beneficial
5	or equitable interest in the promissory note, based on
6	your understanding?
7	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection. It calls for a
8	legal conclusion.
9	THE WITNESS: No, I can't.
10	BY MR. IMMEL:
11	Q. And earlier when we discussed the MERS
12	documentation where Ginnie Mae was identified as the
13	investor, would it be fair to say that the beneficial or
14	equitable interest would actually lie with the person
15	who made the loan?
16	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection. It calls for a
17	legal conclusion.
18	THE WITNESS: I don't have that knowledge.
19	BY MR. IMMEL:
20	Q. Okay. And based on the MERS documentation
21	that I presented to you earlier, where the investor was
22	identified as Ginnie Mae. In paragraph 5 here, they are
23	identifying Fannie Mae as the investor.
24	Do you have any understanding of as to why
25	those two things would

	Page 48
1	A. No, I don't.
2	Q there would be a discrepancy there? Okay.
3	All right.
4	And going back to the mortgage loan ownership
5	and the interrogatories one more time. Can you explain
6	why one entity would have the beneficial interest and
7	another entity would have a legal interest
8	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection. It calls for a
9	legal conclusion.
10	BY MR. IMMEL:
11	Q based on your company's protocols?
12	A. I don't have that knowledge.
13	Q. Okay. GMAC Mortgage owns some loans and
14	services other; is that correct?
15	A. To my knowledge that would be a correct
16	statement.
17	Q. Okay. Do they and then in other instances,
18	they both own loan and service the loan?
19	A. That would be a fair statement.
20	Q. Okay. Is it possible that GMAC Mortgage is
21	the servicer for this loan and another entity whether
22	it be Fannie Mae, Ginnie Mae, or any other entity
23	perhaps is the owner and GMAC is just the servicer?
24	A. That's possible. But I'm not familiar enough
25	to say yes or no.

	Page 49						
1	Q. Okay. All right. I'm just going to go over						
2	the notice of taking the deposition duces tecum.						
3	(Defendant's Exhibit Letter N was marked for						
4	identification.)						
5	BY MR. IMMEL:						
6	Q. All right. This is and just for the						
7	record, Exhibit A, if you would turn to that. This is a						
8	list of the documents that we requested that you bring.						
9	A request for production. And you provided some of them						
10	earlier.						
11	I just wanted to go over it and see if you						
12	brought any of these documents today, or if you were						
13	just relying on what was produced in the request for						
14	production. Okay?						
15	The deponent's most recent curriculum vitae?						
16	A. I didn't feel I needed to bring that. That's						
17	personal.						
18	Q. Okay. You actually provided the corporate						
19	resolution for MERS and for GMAC. You presented the						
20	list of certifying officers. And the MERS system						
21	documents records, you already stated that you don't						
22	have any access.						
23	Your team brings you the documents. And you						
24	don't receive any direct communication from the						
25	attorneys that draft them?						

	Page 50					
1	A. The only type of communication I would receive					
2	from an attorney is if a document is late in being					
3	returned.					
4	Q. Okay. All right. And it would be fair to say					
5	that your primary responsibility is to create and					
6	execute these documents, not to actually do any of the					
7	underlying duties of ascertaining specific knowledge or					
8	information about them, correct?					
9	MS. ARROYAVE: Objection: Form. Asked and					
10	answered.					
11	THE WITNESS: And the answer to that would be,					
12	no.					
13	MR. IMMEL: All right. I think that's most of					
14	it. Just let me have on second to review, but I					
15	think that's most of it. All right. I think that					
16	should do it for today.					
17	Thank you very much for traveling here.					
18	MS. ARROYAVE: I have a few questions.					
19	MR. IMMEL: Yeah. I'm sorry about that.					
20	MS. ARROYAVE: You can't have all of the fun.					
21	Can I look at the exhibits?					
22	CROSS (JEFFREY STEPHAN)					
23	BY MS. ARROYAVE:					
24	Q. I'm going to show you what has been previously					
25	marked as Defendant's Exhibit C to your deposition.					

	Page 51				
1	Do you have any knowledge of how this document				
2	is created?				
3	A. No.				
4	Q. Do you have any knowledge as to whether the				
5	information in this document is accurate?				
6	A. No.				
7	Q. Do you know how this is prepared?				
8	A. No.				
9	Q. Okay. Let me show you what has been				
10	previously marked as Defendant's Exhibit A to your				
11	deposition. It is the assignment of mortgage.				
12	The information that is used to prepare this				
13	mortgage is kept in GMAC Mortgages' business records; is				
14	that correct?				
15	A. Yes.				
16	Q. And these business records from where this				
17	information came from were created by persons in GMAC				
18	Mortgage, employees of GMAC Mortgage, right?				
19	A. Yes.				
20	Q. And the information was entered into the				
21	computer system by these GMAC Mortgage employees at the				
22	time that they became aware of the information?				
23	A. Yes.				
24	Q. And they had a business duty to enter the				
25	information into the computer system; is that correct?				

	Page 52				
1	A. Yes.				
2	Q. And this information, these business records				
3	are kept within the course and scope of GMAC's regularly				
4	conducted business activities; is that correct?				
5	A. I'm going to say yes.				
6	Q. Okay. I'm going to show you what has been				
7	previously marked as Defendant's Exhibit F to your				
8	deposition. And it's the affidavit of lost original				
9	document.				
10	Is the information you used to prepare this				
11	lost original document kept in GMAC Mortgages' business				
12	records?				
13	A. I don't understand the question.				
14	Q. Okay. The information in the lost original				
15	document, is that GMAC Mortgage is the owner and				
16	holder of the note, correct?				
17	A. Yes.				
18	Q. Is that information kept within the course and				
19	scope of GMAC's business records?				
20	A. Yes.				
21	Q. And the information in GMAC's business records				
22	are entered by persons with knowledge of the information				
23	that GMAC is the owner of the note?				
24	MR. IMMEL: Objection: Leading.				
25	THE WITNESS: Can you rephrase it? I'm not				

	Page 53					
1	sure if I follow what you are saying.					
2	BY MS. ARROYAVE:					
3	Q. The business records that GMAC has regarding					
4	whether it is the original whether it is the owner of					
5	the note, was entered by persons that have personal					
6	knowledge of whether GMAC is the owner of the note; is					
7	that correct?					
8	A. I honestly don't know. I do not work in those					
9	departments.					
10	Q. Okay.					
11	MS. ARROYAVE: I have nothing further.					
12	REDIRECT (JEFFREY STEPHAN)					
13	BY MR. IMMEL:					
14	Q. I would just ask: The assignment of the					
15	mortgage and the information on it, this is not created					
16	by anyone at this specific document isn't actually					
17	created by a member or a worker for GMAC Mortgage, it is					
18	actually created by the attorney?					
19	A. Yes.					
20	Q. Okay. So the attorney would have to be					
21	relying on business records of GMAC Mortgage in forming					
22	this?					
23	A. That would be correct.					
24	Q. Okay. And as to the lost note, this too is					
25	created by the attorney, correct?					

		Page 54
1	A. That is	correct.
2	Q. Okay.	
3	MR. IMM	EL: All right. That does it.
4	MS. ARR	OYAVE: That's it.
5	MR. IMM	EL: All right. Thank you.
6	MS. ARR	OYAVE: We will read.
7	THE COU	RT REPORTER: Okay.
8	(Witnes	s excused.)
9	(Deposi	tion was concluded.)
10		
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	Page 55
1	CERTIFICATE OF OATH
2	THE STATE OF FLORIDA
3	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
4	
5	
6	I, the undersigned authority, certify that Jeffrey
7	Stephan personally appeared before me and was duly
8	sworn. Dated the 10th day of December, 2009.
9	
10	Dated this 22nd day of December, 2009.
11	
12	acalLeg.
13	Jamie Reynwhar Bentley
	gume regressioners
14	
	Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court Reporter
15	Notary Public - State of Florida
	My Commission Expires: 7/20/2013
16	My Commission No.: DD 453053
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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1	CERTIFICATE
2	THE STATE OF FLORIDA
3	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
4	
5	I, Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court Reporter and
	Notary Public in and for the State of Florida at
6	large, do hereby certify that I was authorized to
	and did report said deposition in stenotype; and
7	that the foregoing pages are a true and correct
	transcription of my shorthand notes of said
8	deposition.
9	I further certify that said deposition was
	taken at the time and place hereinabove set forth
10	and that the taking of said deposition was commenced
	and completed as hereinabove set out.
11	
	I further certify that I am not attorney or
12	counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative
	or employee of any attorney or counsel of party
13	connected with the action, nor am I financially
	interested in the action.
14	
	The foregoing certification of this transcript
15	does not apply to any reproduction of the same by
	any means unless under the direct control and/or
16	direction of the certifying reporter.
17	Dated this 22nd day of December, 2009.
18	Jamie Keynwhar Bentley
19	gume regressives cercely
20	
	Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court Reporter
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

	Page 57					
1	DATE: December 31, 2009					
2	TO: Jeffrey Stephan					
3	IN RE: GMAC Mortgage, LLC vs Ann M. Neu, Michelle Perez,					
	Douglas William					
4	J 					
_	CASE NO.: 50 2008 CA 040805XXXX MB					
5						
	Please take notice that on Thursday, the 10th					
6	of December, 2009, you gave your deposition in the					
	above-referred matter. At that time, you did not					
7	waive signature. It is now necessary that you sign					
,	your deposition.					
8	Please call our office at the below-listed					
	number to schedule an appointment between the hours					
9	of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday,					
	at the Consor & Associates office located nearest					
10	you.					
	If you do not read and sign the deposition					
11	within a reasonable time, the original, which has					
	already been forwarded to the ordering attorney, may					
12	be filed with the Clerk of the Court. If you wish					
	to waive your signature, sign your name in the blank					
13	at the bottom of this letter and return it to us.					
14	Very truly yours,					
15						
16						
17	Jamie Reynolds Bentley, Court Reporter					
	Consor & Associates					
18	1655 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 500					
	West Palm Beach, Florida 33401					
19						
20	I do hereby waive my signature.					
21						
22	Jeffrey Stephan					
23	I do hereby waive my signature:					
24	Cc: Via transcript: Chrisopher Immel,Esquire					
25	File copy					

	Page 58
1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	THE STATE OF FLORIDA
4	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
5	I hereby certify that I have read the foregoing
6	deposition by me given, and that the statements
7	contained herein are true and correct to the best of
8	my knowledge and belief, with the exception of any
9	corrections or notations made on the errata sheet,
10	if one was executed.
11	
12	Dated this,
13	2009.
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	JEFFREY STEPHAN
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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1	ERRATA SHEET
2	IN RE: GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC VS ANN M. NEU, MICHELLE PEREZ, DOUGLAS WILLIAM
3	CR: JAMIE REYNOLDS BENTLEY
	DEPOSITION OF: JEFFREY STEPHAN
4	TAKEN: 12/10/09
5	
6	DO NOT WRITE ON TRANSCRIPT - ENTER CHANGES HERE
7	PAGE # LINE # CHANGE REASON
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	Please forward the original signed errata sheet to this office so that copies may be distributed to all parties.
19	
	Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read my
20	deposition and that it is true and correct subject to any
	changes in form or substance entered here.
21	
22	DATE:
23	
24	SIGNATURE OF DEPONENT:
25	

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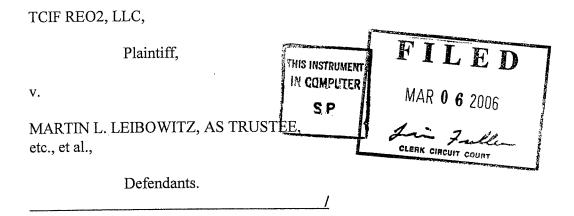
EXHIBIT 6

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER: 16-2004-CA-4835-XXXX-MA

DIVISION: CV-E



MOTION FOR SANCTIONS FOR FRAUD UPON THE COURT

COME NOW, Defendants Robert and Lillian Jackson, by and through their undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Rule 1.140, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, hereby move the Court to enter sanctions against the Plaintiff, including Dismissal of the pending matter with prejudice and such other sanctions as the Court deems appropriate. In support of this Motion, Defendants would state as follows:

1. On or about August 6, 2004, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Summary Judgment with this Court. In support of the Motion for Summary Judgment, Plaintiff contemporaneously filed an Affidavit of Indebtedness signed and subscribed by Margie Kwiatanowski, a "Limited Signing Officer" with GMAC Mortgage Corporation ("GMAC"), the servicing agent for Plaintiff. Plaintiff filed subsequent Amended Motions for Summary Judgment on March 10, 2005 and November 3, 2005, and again filed Affidavits of Indebtedness signed and subscribed by Ms. Kwiatanowski, as a Limited Signing Officer.

- 2. The Affidavits of Indebtedness contains Ms. Kwiatanowski's statements, allegedly under oath, on behalf of GMAC, that she:
- (a) has "personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages and notes owned and held by said corporation." (Affidavit, paragraph 1).
- (b) has "examined the relevant loan documents and the Complaint, and each allegation of the Complaint is correct." (Affidavit, paragraph 2).
- (c) is familiar with the loan payment records, which are regularly compiled and maintained as business records: "These records properly reflect loan payments, charges, and advances that are noted in the records at the time of the applicable transactions by persons whose regular duties include recording this information." (Affidavit, paragraph 3).
 - (d) swore and subscribed to the statements before a Notary.
- 3. The Affidavits additionally detail the alleged facts as the status of the mortgage, including the material dates, the amount owed and the fees and charges.
- 4. Ms. Kwiatanowski was deposed at GMAC's facility in Horsham, Pennsylvania, on January 31, 2006. See, Notice of Deposition, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference. During the deposition, Ms. Kwiatanowski admitted the above statements under oath were false:
- (a) has "personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages and notes owned and held by said corporation." (Affidavit, paragraph 1).

Ms. Kwiatanowski admitted that, while she can *access* other loan documents, the statement regarding personal knowledge was false:

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Q. All right. Let me ask you to go to the Amended Affidavit, which is Jackson 00006. And we'll start with page - - I'm sorry, paragraph 1.

It states that you're a limited signing officer and that you have personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages and notes owned and held by said corporation.

Do you see that?

- A. Yes, I do.
- Q. How is that true?
- A. Well, generally, I understand what a note and a mortgage is, and how - how the loan is originated.
- Q. Right. But this says you have personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages owned and held by said corporation; corporation being TCIF RE02, LLC?
- A. Well, actually, we're the servicing agent for them. We would not have originated the loan.

I'm not quite sure how to answer your question, though.

- Q. Well, how is it that you have personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages serviced by GMAC for this claimant?
- A. Again, I'm not - I don't know.
- Q. Do you have personal knowledge of the status of all mortgages and notes serviced by GMAC for this claimant?
- A. No, I do not.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 30 line 9 - p. 31 line 15) (emphasis added)

(b) has "examined the relevant loan documents and the Complaint, and each allegation of the Complaint is correct." (Affidavit, paragraph 2).

Ms. Kwiatanowski testified she reviewed only a single computer screen prepared by someone else. She did not review <u>any</u> loan documents, much less the "relevant" ones, and did not read the Complaint:

- Q. Now, paragraph 2 - and I'm just jumping ahead to your affidavit. But your affidavits, as you may be familiar, referenced the fact that you reviewed certain things in order to sign the affidavits?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. The records in paragraph 2 that are requested are: Any and all documents, electronic memoranda, policy manuals, servicing manuals, or other items of any kind reviewed in preparation for completion of the Affidavit of Indebtedness dated July 15, 2004, and Amended Affidavit of Indebtedness dated October 20, 2005. And your affidavits are then attached after this.

But my next question is: Is there anything other than what's sitting to your left, that you recall reviewing in order to prepare the two affidavits?

- A. I would have -- excuse me, I'm sorry. I would have reviewed a screen in our system that populates what the total indebtedness is. And I don't believe a copy of that screen is within this pile.
- Q. Okay. Are you saying that you reviewed a single screen?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And when I'm picturing a screen, I'm picturing a single page of information; or is there more than one page of information that appears on your screen?
- A. There is one page of information.
- Q. What is that page of information called?
- A. It's called the foreclosure work screen.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 19 line 13 - p. 20 line 24)

- Q. Okay. Did you review the payment history separately?
- A. I would have no reason to review it separately.
- Q. Okay. In other words, you did not review the payment history before completing your affidavit?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Would you have reviewed the actual note of mortgage before completing your affidavit?
- A. No, I would not have.
- Q. Would you have reviewed any of the customer history log, the document, the discussions back and forth between the mortgagors and the servicing company?
- A. No, I would not have.
- Q. Is it fair to say, then, that in completing an affidavit such as the ones we have attached as Bates stamped Jackson 3 through 5, and Jackson 6 through 8, that you would have reviewed one computer screen called the foreclosure work screen?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And nothing else?
- A. That's correct.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 22 line 16 - p. 23 line 17) (emphasis added)

Q. Paragraph 2, it says: I have examined the relevant loan documents and the Complaint, and each allegation of the Complaint is correct.

Is the Complaint part of the foreclosure work screen?

- A. No, it is not.
- Q. Would you have actually read the Complaint before signing the Amended Affidavit of Indebtedness?
- A. No, I would not. I could have reviewed it because generally they are downloaded in a system that we have linked to our attorneys.
- Q. Scanned?
- A. Yes. Imaged.
- Q. Imaged?
- A. Um-hmm.
- Q. Do you know whether it's general practice to bring up the image of the Complaint when you're reviewing the foreclosure work screen?
- A. No, I would not.
- Q. So typically you would not examine the Complaint before signing the affidavit?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. We've already covered that you review the foreclosure work screen.

What are the "relevant loan documents" that are referenced in paragraph 2?

- A. I would think that they would have been anything that is supplied to the foreclosing attorney; it would be the mortgage, the note, the title policy.
- Q. And did you review the relevant loan documents consisting of the mortgage and the note and the title policy before signing the Amended Affidavit of Indebtedness?

A. No, I did not.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 31 line 16 - p. 33 line 6) (emphasis added)

(c) "These records properly reflect loan payments, charges, and advances that are noted in the records at the time of the applicable transactions by persons whose regular duties include recording this information." (Affidavit, paragraph 3).

Ms. Kwiatanowski admitted that she had <u>no knowledge</u> of whether the information kept was recorded "at the time of the applicable transaction by persons whose regular duties include recording this information," and simply relies on the "system" without having any idea how or whether the "system" confirms entries are made accurately and timely:

- Q. Do you agree that that sentence, the last sentence of paragraph 3 of your affidavit, indicates that the entries are made at the time of the transactions?
- A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Okay. So then, let me step back and re-ask the question. How is the system set up to confirm that those entries are made accurately and timely?
- A. I wouldn't be able to answer that. That's not my area of expertise.
- Q. Well, you swore to this affidavit.
- A. Well –

Q. You swore to the truth of the fact that the history is noted in the record at the time of the transaction.

How do you know that to be true?

- A. Because I I have to rely on our system of record.
- Q. Right. I agree that it's set up for you to rely on that, but that's not what this says. It says you're swearing to the fact that that record is accurate and timely.
- A. I just would have to have confidence in my system that it is true and correct.
- Q. Okay. Is there any let me go back to my hypothetical that I asked you, where a mortgagor has a conversation with a loan specialist or work-out specialist, or whatever their title is, and reaches some sort of payment plan. Okay?
- A. Okay.
- Q. How is the system set up to confirm, number one, that that conversation is entered that day, for example, versus an employee taking a note and entering it a week later when they come back from vacation; and now is it set up to confirm that the data is entered accurately, that the employee has the payment numbers and times of payment and method of payment entered accurately?
- A. I wouldn't be able to answer that because that's not in my unit.
- Q. As part of your unit, have you ever gone back to confirm how you can swear to the truth of this sentence?
- A. There are times when I might have to review a loan as far as conversations, if a borrower was disputing something. There would be those times that I would review the notes and the account at that point.

But in - in this particular affidavit, I had no reason to go back to review anything.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 34 line 13 - p. 36 line 20)

The record in the instant case demonstrates why some minimal scrutiny (as otherwise sworn to in the subject Affidavits, but never actually completed by the Affiant) would

be necessary:

- Q. And is it fair to say that as of November 25, 2003, the Jacksons were completely paid up with GMAC, according to that entry?
- A. I would I would have to confirm that by looking at the payment history.
- Q. Well, tell me what else that entry would mean; in other words, why would that entry be made in the comment history if the payment history didn't reflect it as true?
- A. Well, as it should, it should agree. I don't I'm not disputing that. But my feeling would be I would look to see how the payments were applied, to see if they were applied correctly, if I had a reason to review this account.
- Q. Which you did not?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Well, isn't it fair to say that your affidavit indicates that the payment due February 1, 2004, is the one that placed this loan in default, correct?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And that would be a payment due for December, a payment due for January, and a payment due for February of '04, correct?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Did you ever go back to confirm whether those were the payments that threw this loan into default?
- A. I would only know what the due date is in the system.

- Q. Just based on what the foreclosure work screen says?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Would you know who the person because I want to be fair, now that I have an understanding of your role in this.

Would you know who the person would be who would be most familiar with the entries on the comment history that we're going over right now?

- A. I don't think I could give you a specific person, no.
- Q. Okay. If I told you that Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have canceled checks showing payments cashed by GMAC on January 5th of '04 and February 14, of '04, you have no explanation for that; that's not your role in reviewing this?
- A. That's correct. That's something payment research would handle.
- Q. Okay. With regard to whether the payments were accurately allotted to principal and interest as opposed to paid from suspense or pay to suspense, that would not be your role?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Allotting the payments accurately is not your role?
- A. That's correct.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 49 line 10 - p. 51 line 21)

Unfortunately, while the Affidavit reflecting sworn testimony to the Court indicates the Affiant has conducted a complete review of the file, GMAC's system is designed so that other departments within GMAC are responsible for reviewing the data:

- Q. All right. Ms. Kwiatanowski, let me ask you this: Is there any reason or any way in the system that is set up within GMAC for the foreclosure work screen to indicate any problems or issues or disputes prior to the day you review it?
- A. No.

- Q. If there are comments in the I forget what we called them the comment history, if there are comments here that note, for example, that the borrower is having problems trying to get someone to resolve escrow and payment applications issues, if there are comments that say Account escrow payment may not be correct, sent for explanation, that type of thing, are any of those or do any of those result in any sort of flags that get to the foreclosure work screen?
- A. If there were any reason, if there was a dispute prior to a loan being referred, they would put what we call a CIT on the loan; that would prevent it from being referred while it was being researched.
- Q. Okay. And I do see that, the listing for CIT, throughout this history.

What then, stops that CIT trigger and sends it on to your department, or stops the CIT hold and then sends it on to your department?

- A. I believe there's -- I believe there's two different CITs for different lengths of time to keep it on hold. I believe and also it would fall into someone's queue to see whether or not that should be removed prior to removing it; to see, for example, to see if the research has been completed. And if it has been and they find no error of GMAC's, then they would remove that CIT and that would move forward to foreclosure.
- Q. Okay. Which department conducts that analysis -
- A. It would –
- Q. is it done before it gets to your department or your unit?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. How's that get done?
- A. It would be through customer service. It would really depend on what the issue was as to what unit would be handling it.

Q. Okay. Well, for example, here we have – and I'm just summarizing this, and just because I think it is accurate – but there are entries here throughout with regard to a dispute in how the payments are being applied; you know, one notation here made by a GMAC individual that the account escrow payment may not be correct, sent for explanation.

How can you – or can you tell from that which unit is handling the review?

- A. No, I cannot.
- Q. What are the names of the units that do the reviews; you said there were two?
- A. Well, there's a payment there's payment research. There's an escrow unit if it were a dispute with taxes or insurance, they would need to review it. For an MI issue, that area would review it. It would all depend on the issue –
- Q. Okay.
- A. who would be researching it.
- Q. Is there a way to tell from the comment histories which units resolve the dispute?
- A. It would show by that teller number on there who the associate was.
- Q. Okay.
- A. And then you would know from there what unit they would come from.
- Q. And again, that gets done on the DocTrac I'm sorry.
- A. The XNet.
- Q. XNet?
- A. Preconversion, on the XNet.
- Q. Okay.
- A. Postconversion, we can do it right on our system.

- Q. Is there a review process to make sure that the conclusion is accurate?
- A. I wouldn't be able to answer that.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 58 line 7 - p. 61 line 24)

(d) swore and subscribed to the statements before a Notary.

Finally, Ms. Kwiatanowski admitted at the deposition she did not sign the Affidavits in front of a notary, but that it was "our" regular practice for the Affidavits to be placed in a folder and sent across the building to be signed by the notary, sometimes on another day:

- Q. On Ms. Holmes' notary section, do you see there that she does not fill out the name of the person who is taking the oath?
- A. I see that now, yes.
- Q. And do you see that she also does not have a notary stamp?
- A. I see that also, yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with Pennsylvania's notary statute?
- A. I realize that they have to have a stamp to notarize.
- Q. And that both of those are violations of Pennsylvania's notary statute?
- A. I would think so, yes.
- Q. How is it that you and Ms. Holmes ended up in the same place at the same time for completion of the affidavit, how does that physically work?
- A. Well, all documents that we sign already sworn in, she would hand me personally. So she would just sign off she would notarize it after I signed off.
- Q. Are you two in the same room when that's done?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. How is that physically done, is what I am asking?
- A. We would anything that I would sign over to anything I would sign off, I would give to her to notarize.
- Q. Okay. And how again, how is that physically done; do you and she meet in the same room, at the same time in the same place?
- A. She is in the same building. I I would leave it could be more than just one affidavit in a folder and I waited for her to notarize.
- Q. Okay. But by then, I'm taking it that she notarizes it at a different time than you sign it?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. Is that also true for the signature on Jackson 00008?
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. And that appears to be a Brenda Staehle?
- A. Brenda Staehle.
- Q. Staerle, S-T-A-E-R-L-E.
- A. Actually it's S-T-A-E-H-L-E.
- Q. Okay. Thank you.

And she does indicate that you are the person swearing, and she does have her notary stamp here. But what you're indicating is you signed the document —

For example, the Amended Affidavit of Indebtedness, which is 6 through 8 on our Bates stamp, you sign the document, you put it in a folder, it gets routed to Ms. Staehle and then she signs it at a later time?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. Do you know if she signs it on the same day that you do?

- A. Generally, yes, she would.
- Q. How do you know that, what's the control for that?
- A. Because they would try to complete something within the same day; as we have our guidelines to follow and our time frames to get it back to the processor, to supply it back to the attorney.
- Q. Okay. But there's no doubt that she doesn't notarize it or she doesn't witness your signing?

She does not witness or did not witness you placing your signature on Bates stamp 8; is that correct?

A. That's correct.

Deposition of Margie Kwiatanowski, taken January 31, 2006 (p. 27 line 4 - p. 30 line 8) (emphasis added)

Clearly, the notary statutes of both Pennsylvania (57 P.S. 158) and Florida (Section 117.05, Florida Statutes) are violated by the process used by GMAC in the instant case (and in all other cases, given the procedure outlined by Ms. Kwiatanowski.) Violation of Florida's notary statutes in the manner described (notarizing a signature if the person whose signature is being notarized is not in the presence of the notary at the time) constitutes malfeasance and misfeasance in the conduct of official duties, pursuant to Section 117.107(9), Florida Statutes. Under Pennsylvania law, when a notary certifies a document, the notary attests that the document has been executed, that the notary was confronted by the signor, that the signor is the person whose name is subscribed, and that the notary is verifying the date of execution. In Re Fisher, 320 B.R. 52, at 63 (E.D. Penn. 2005) (emphasis added.)

5. As referenced above, the Affidavits of Indebtedness filed by GMAC in furtherance of the foreclosure constitute sworn testimony to this Court in validation of the debt and GMAC's right to collect the debt. Unfortunately, the Affidavits are rife with falsehoods and misstatements; GMAC's system does not allow the Affiant (or her entire department, for that

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matter) any opportunity to review the actual history of the loan or any of the loan document, as the Affidavit otherwise maintains to the Court. Defendants assert the filing of such false sworn testimony is a fraud upon this Court.

- It is appropriate for the trial court to dismiss an action based on fraud, 6. provided that there is a blatant showing of "fraud, pretense, collusion, or other similar wrongdoing." Distefano v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Ins. Co., 846 So. 2d 572, 574 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003).
- Misrepresentations in the Affidavit are willful fraud, interfering with the 7. Court's "ability to impartially adjudicate a matter by improperly influencing the trier of fact or unfairly hampering the presentation of the opposing party's claim or defense." Id.
- This Court should dismiss the pending action with prejudice and award such other 8. relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.

WHEREFORE, Defendants Robert and Lillian Jackson, respectfully request this Court enter sanctions against Plaintiff, including entry of a Dismissal with Prejudice and such other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.

DATED at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, this <u>\$\frac{1}{2}\$</u> day of March, 2006.

LAW OFFICES OF TROMBERG & KOWALSKI

James A. Kowalski, Jr., Esquire (FBN: 852740)

Charlie F. Schmitt (FBN: 0012803)

4925 Beach Boulevard

Jacksonville, FL 32207

Telephone: (904) 396-5321 Facsimile: (904) 396-5730

Attorneys for Defendants

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail this _____ day of March, 2006, to Diana B. Matson, Esq., 2691 East Oakland Park, Suite 303, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306.

James A. Kowalski, Jr., Esquire

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER: 16-2004-CA-4835-XXXX-MA

DIVISION: CV-E

TCIF REO2, LLC,

Plaintiff,

٧.

MARTIN L. LEIBOWITZ, AS TRUSTEE, etc., et al.,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF DEPOSITION
OF MARGIE KWIATANOWSKI WITH REQUEST
TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS AT DEPOSITION
(BY VIDEOTAPE RECORDING)

TO: Diana B. Matson, Esq. 2691 East Oakland Park Blvd. Suite 303
Fort Lauderdale, FL 32306

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Tuesday, January 31, 2005, at 12:30 p.m. and continuing thereafter until complete, at 500 Enterprise Road, Horsham, Pennsylvania, 19044, the Defendants, Robert Jackson and Lillian Jackson, will take the videotaped deposition of the following:

MARGIE KWIATANOWSKI

upon oral and video examination pursuant to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure before Esquire Deposition Services, or before some other officer authorized by law to take depositions. Said deposition is being taken for the purpose of discovery, for use at trial, or both.

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At the date, time and place of the deposition, the witness shall have with her the following:

- All books, records, and documents kept or maintained by Plaintiff and or its 1. agents or employees which relate in any way to Robert and Lillian Jackson.
- Any and all documents, electronic memoranda, policy manuals, servicing manuals. or other items of any kind reviewed in preparation for completion of that certain Affidavit of Indebtedness dated July 15, 2004 and Amended Affidavit of Indebtedness dated October 20, 2005, copies of which are attached hereto.

DATED, at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, this day of December, 2005.

> LAW OFFICES OF TROMBERG & KOWALSKI

Fred Tromberg, Esquire (FBN: 246514)

James A. Kowalski, Jr., Esquire (FBN: 852740)

Charlie F. Schmitt, Esquire (FBN: 12803)

4925 Beach Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32207 Telephone: (904) 396-5321 Facsimile: (904) 396-5730

Counsel for Defendants Robert and Lillian Jackson

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail delivery, this _____day of December, 2005, to Diana B. Matson, Esq., 2691 East Oakland Park, Suite 303, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306.

Esquire Deposition Services cc: 1600 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1210 Philadelphia, PA 19103

> STATE OF FLORIDA DUVAL COUNTY

1, THE UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duval County Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the within and foregoing is a tru and correct copy of the original as it appears on record and fil in the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court of Duval County, Florida WITNESS my hand and seaffor Cle

lacksonville, Florida, this the

2

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER: 16-2004-CA-4835-XXXX-MA

DIVISION: CV-E

TCIF REO2, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARTIN L. LEIBOWITZ, AS TRUSTEE, etc., et al.,

Defendants.



ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

This cause came before the Court on April 5, 2006 on Defendants Robert Jackson and Lillian Jackson's Motion for Sanctions for Fraud Upon the Court. The Court has reviewed the pleadings, considered arguments of counsel, and is otherwise fully advised in the premises.

The Court finds Plaintiff, through its servicing entity, GMAC Mortgage Corporation, submitted false testimony to the Court in the form of Affidavits of Indebtedness signed and subscribed by Margie Kwiatanowski, a "Limited Signing Officer" with GMAC Mortgage Corporation. The submission of the false Affidavits was pursuant to protocols and procedures wherein Ms. Kwiatanowski, as Limited Signing Officer, would attest to review of the relevant loan documents, the Complaint, and the loan payment records, when in fact (as sworn to by Ms. Kwiatanowski in her deposition) she neither reviewed the referenced records nor was familiar with the manner in which the records were created by GMAC on behalf of Plaintiff. In her deposition, Ms. Kwiatanowski admitted none of the Affidavits were signed before a Notary, and that Affidavits of the sort filed by Plaintiff would be signed and then left in a folder, to be notarized at a different

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time. The admissions by Ms. Kwiatanowski in her deposition directly contradict the sworn testimony to the Court in the form of the referenced Affidavits, both as to the substance of the Affidavits and with regard to whether the Affidavits were sworn to before a notary.

The Court recognizes the statements made by Plaintiff's counsel at the hearing to the effect that the procedures in place at GMAC with regard to servicing of this Plaintiff's loans were being corrected. The Court finds the submission of false testimony to the Court in the manner described does not rise to the level required in order for this Court to dismiss the action. Cox v. Burke, 706 So.2d 43 (Fla. 5th DCA 1998.) The Court will not condone Plaintiff's actions in filing false testimony, however, and the Court has both the inherent authority to sanction Plaintiff's actions, based upon the findings set forth above, and finds sanctions to be appropriate. It is therefore:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED:

- 1. Defendants' Motion for Sanctions for Fraud Upon the Court is GRANTED.
- 2. The subject Affidavits as completed by Ms. Kwiatanowski are and same be stricken.
- The Court orders Plaintiff to pay Defendants' attorneys' fees and costs for the efforts related to the taking of Ms. Kwiatanowski's deposition. Based upon a review of the record and the Affidavit filed by Defendants' counsel, the Court finds a reasonable sanction to be 30 hours of attorney's time and further finds a reasonable, local hourly rate to be \$250.00, and further awards costs in the amount of 134.34.35. Therefore, the Plaintiff, TCIF REO2, LLC, Inc. shall forward to defense counsel payment of \$8,134.35 in sanctions for the reasons set forth above within days from the date of this Order.
- 4. Counsel for Plaintiff shall file with the Court GMAC's written explanation and confirmation, on behalf of Plaintiff, that GMAC's policies and procedures with regard to the servicing of all of this Plaintiff's loans within the State of Florida have been modified, in accord with

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representations made by counsel to the Court that such modifications were being made, to confirm the affidavits filed in future foreclosure actions in Florida accurately memorialize the actions and conduct of the affiants. The written confirmation of policy changes, and an explanation for the policies now in place, shall be filed with the Court within _________ days of the date of this Order.

Circuit Court Judge

Copies to:

James A. Kowalski, Jr., Esquire

Roy A. Diaz, Esquire

STATE OF FLORIDA

DUVAL COUNTY

1, THE UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duval County.

1, THE UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duval County.

Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the within and toregoing is a free florida, on the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court of Duval County, Clerk of Circuit Court, Court, County, Clerk of Circuit Court, Court,

Clerk, Circuit and County County

Duyal County, Florida

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION

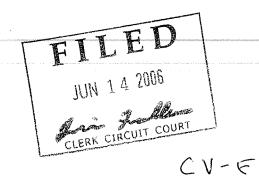
CASE NO. 162004CA004835XXXXMA

TCIF REO2, LLC,

Plaintiff,

VS.

MARTIN L. LEIBOWITZ, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE JACKSON FAMILY LAND TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2002; ROBERT L. JACKSON; LILLIAN M. JACKSON; WILLIAM W. MASSEY, III; STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2, et. al.,



THIS INSTRUMENT IN COMPUTER J.T.

Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THIS COURT'S ORDER DATED MAY 1, 2006

COMES NOW, the Plaintiff, TCIF REO2, LLC., by and through its undersigned counsel, and files this Notice of Compliance with this Court's Order dated May 1, 2006, and states that the Plaintiff has forwarded a check to opposing counsel as required pursuant to paragraph 3 of said Order, and has simultaneously herewith submitted the Directive to the Court, as required pursuant to paragraph 4.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Compliance has been sent via U.S. Mail this 12th day of June, 2006 to all parties on the attached Service List.

SMITH, HIATT & DIAZ, P.A.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

2691 East Oakland Park Boulevard, Suite 303

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33306

Telephone: (954) 564-0071 Facsimile: (954) 564-9252

BY:

ROY A. DIAZ

Florida Bar No. 767700

SERVICE LIST

Case No. 162004CA004835XXXXMA

Martin L. Leibowitz, as Trustee under the Jackson Family Land Trust 2120 Oak Street Jacksonville, FL 32204

Fred Tromberg, Esq.
4925 Beach Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32207
Attorney For Robert L. Jackson
And Lillian M. Jackson

William W. Massey, III 2254 Riverside Ave Jacksonville, FL 32204

State of Florida Department of Revenue c/o Dr. Dr. James A. Zingale, Executive Director 501 South Calhoun Street, Carlton Building, Room 104 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Main Document 2691 E. Oakland Park Blvd.

Suite 303

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33306

(954) 564-0071 Telephone (954) 564-9252 Facsimile

Mailing Address: PO Box 11438

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33339-1438

File in

J. THAYER



Via Overnight UPS

<u> Iiatt &</u>

BERNARD NACHMAN

The Honorable Bernard Nachman **Duval County Courthouse** 330 E. Bay Street, Room 202 Jacksonville, FL 32202-

RE:

TCIF REO2, LLC v. MARTIN LEIBOWITZ, as Trustee, et al.

THIS

INSTRUMENT IN

COMPUTER

Case No.

162004CA004835XXXXMA

CVE

Dear Judge Nachman:

Enclosed with this correspondence is a courtesy copy of the Plaintiff's Notice of Compliance with this Court's Order dated May 1, 2006, and the original signed Directive from GMAC regarding its policies on Affidavits being filed with the court in connection with mortgage foreclosure cases.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, HIATT & DIAZ, P.A.

Roy A. Diaz For the Firm

Enclosures

FILEDOS 14ºOSPMOZ46JIM FILLER

A POLICY DIRECTIVE FROM THE LEGAL STAFF

DOCUMENT SIGNATURE PRACTICES

The Legal Staff and its retained outside counsel present evidence to the courts in probably all jurisdictions. This evidence takes the form of written documentation signed by authorized corporate representatives. Some of these documents are notarized either as a simple notarial certificate and others notarized as sworn instruments before the notary. The following directives make not only good business sense but are commanded by statute. Thus, besides financial impact in the cases we handle, the signing process may invoke sanctions by a court. It is the integrity of our cases that is at stake and we cannot afford anything less than full accuracy.

- 1. Any signatory in behalf of the corporation must read and fully understand the instrument that is being signed. Do not sign unless you have that comfort level.
- 2. Any signatory in behalf of the corporation must be properly authorized by the corporation. When in doubt, consult with your manager or the Legal Staff for guidance.
- 3. Do not sign verifications on court pleading documents unless you have independently reviewed and checked the facts.
- 4. Sign instruments *only in the presence of* the witnessing notary public.
- 5. If the text of the notarial certificate contains an oath (e.g. "Subscribed and sworn to before me..." or similar words) the notary must affirmatively say to the signer, "Do you so swear?".
- 6. Pre-signing notarial certificates before the signer are prohibited by law everywhere.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that as of June 1, 2006, the attached Policy Directive on Document Signature Procedure has been distributed to the associate general counsel and associate counsel of the respective business units of GMAC Mortgage Corporation for distribution to authorized signatories within the enterprise. This Policy Directive is a reaffirmation of existing procedures incorporating the statutory mandates to notaries public of the respective residence states of such notaries public.

June 6, 2006

James J. Barden

Associate Counsel – Legal Staff

STATE OF FLORIDA DUVAL COUNTY

I, THE UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duval County, Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as it appears on record and file in the office of the Clerk of Circuity Goes, of Davel County, Florida

WITNESS my hand and Jacksonville, Florida, this the

EXHIBIT 7

STATE OF MAINE	BRIDGTON DISTRICT COURT	
CUMBERLAND, ss.	DOCKET NO. BRI-RE-09-65	
FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOC.)	
DI 1 4200)	
Plaintiff)	
)	
v.).	
	ORDER ON FOUR	
) PENDING MOTIONS	
NICOLLE BRADBURY	STATE OF MAINE OLIMberland, ss. Clerk's Office OLIMberland, ss. Clerk's Office	
	STATE OF Clerk's China	
Defendant) cumberlaini.	
and	(1) 24 **	
GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC d/b/a DiTech, LLC		
.com and BANK OF AMERICA, NA		
)	
Parties-in-Interest)	

The Court has reviewed each of the four pending motions before it, as well as all supporting materials, including supporting affidavits and statements of material fact. The Court held oral argument on September 1, 2010. Those present were attorneys Tom Cox, Esq. and Geoffrey Lewis, Esq. for Defendant, and attorney John Aromando, Esq. for Plaintiff and Party-in-Interest GMAC. Attorneys Cox and Aromando argued capably for their positions.

On the question of summary judgment, before the Court is Plaintiff's Renewed Motion for Summary Judgment, as well as Defendant's Motion for Revision and Reversal of the Partial Summary Judgment Order. By its motion, Plaintiff asks that the Court affirm its previously issued order of January 27, 2010 granting summary judgment in its favor on the issue of liability, and further seeks summary judgment in its favor on the issue of the amounts owed. The Defendant's motion seeks to set aside this Court's previous order granting partial summary judgment for Plaintiff.

Defendant urges that this Court set aside its order on the ground that in so ruling, the Court relied upon the affidavit of Jeffrey Stephan, which was deficient under M. R. Civ. P. 56(e) because Mr. Stephan had signed the affidavit outside the presence of a notary and without reading its contents. The Plaintiff contends that the order can stand even putting aside the Stephan affidavit, and in any event has sought to cure the irregularities in its filing by submitting a properly sworn affidavit to support its motion.

There are, however, deficiencies in Plaintiff's filing which are not cured by the newly-submitted affidavit, namely deficiencies in its statement of material facts (SMF). The Law Court has made clear that in ruling on a summary judgment motion, Maine courts are "neither required nor permitted to search outside the facts properly referenced in the statements of material facts" See, e.g. Camden Nat'l Bank v. Peterson, 2008 ME 85 ¶ 26, 948 A.2d 1251, 1258 (emphasis added). In Chase Home Finance LLC v. Higgins, 2009 ME 136, 985 A.2d 508, the Law Court set forth a list of those facts which "must be included in the mortgage holder's statement of material facts." Id. at ¶ 11, 985 A.2d at 511. Plaintiff was bound to abide by this mandate, because both its initial and renewed summary judgment motions were filed after the June 15, 2009 effective date noted in Chase. See id at ¶ 11 n.2, 985 A.2d at 510 n. 2 (explaining that new statutes and rules will apply to summary judgment motions filed after their effective dates, regardless of when the foreclosure action was commenced, and adding: "We include the new requirements here for future reference of parties moving for summary judgment in residential foreclosure actions").

Neither Defendant's initially-filed statement of material facts nor its revised statement of material facts comports with *Chase*. For example, the mortgage holder's statement of facts must include "the existence of the mortgage, including the book and page number of the mortgage, and an adequate description of the mortgaged premises, including the street number, if any." *Id.* at ¶ 11, 985 A.2d at 511 (citing P.L. 2009, ch. 402 §§ 9, 17, effective June 15, 2009). Plaintiff's initial and subsequently filed statement of facts provide the book and page number, but fail to include the street address. *See* Plaintiff's SMFs at ¶ 2. Failure to include the street address is enough in itself to preclude the granting of summary judgment. *See Mortgage Elec. Registration Sys. v. Saunders*, 2010 ME 79 ¶ 25 (explaining that "While the book and page number – but not the mortgaged property's address – were included in the affidavit supporting one of MERS's original statements of material fact, facts not set forth in the parties' statements of material facts are not part of the summary judgment record").

Plaintiff's SMFs contain other omissions as well. It is not enough to state, as Plaintiff does, that "Demand has been made upon Defendant for payment of all amounts due" Plaintiff's SMFs at ¶ 5. 14 M.R.S.A. § 6111 requires that a mortgagee's default notice set forth the mortgagor's right to cure, and specifies the requisite content of such notices as well as the procedures which must be followed. As the Law Court stated in discussing compliance with the statutory written notice requirements of foreclosure, "For a mortgagee to legally foreclose, all steps mandated by statute must be strictly enforced." *Camden Nat'l Bank*, 2008 ME at ¶ 21, 948 A.2d at 1257. Plaintiff's statements of fact fail to set forth facts showing compliance with § 6111. Granting summary judgment despite such an omission would contravene the Law Court's clear pronouncements on this issue.

Accordingly, this Court's Partial Summary Judgment Order dated January 27, 2010 is hereby vacated per the request in the Defendant's Motion for Revision and Reversal, and Plaintiff's Renewed Motion for Summary Judgment is denied. No further summary judgment motions will be heard, as the deadline for filing dispositive motions

has long passed and Plaintiff has already been given a second bite of the apple. The parties have twenty days to file an agreed pre-trial order so that this matter may promptly be placed on the trial list in Portland. This file is now transferred to the Portland District Court for further filings and trial.

In addition to renewing its Motion for Summary Judgment, Plaintiff has also filed a Motion for Entry of Protective Order pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 26(c). This motion is likewise denied.

Rule 26(c) provides that "for good cause shown" a court may enter a protective order "which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense" M.R.Civ. P. 26(c). Plaintiff seeks a protective order "prohibiting the dissemination of discovery materials obtained in this case." Plaintiff's Motion for Entry of Protective Order at 7. As grounds for its motion. Plaintiff points to the embarrassment GMAC and its employees have suffered, and will continue to suffer, from the posting of excerpts from Stephan's deposition transcript on an Internet blog. The Court is not persuaded that the Plaintiff has shown the requisite "good cause" to justify entry of a protective order in this case. See, e.g., Public Citizen v. Liggett Group, Inc., 858 F.2d 775, 789 (1st Cir. 1988) (agreeing with Second Circuit in noting that "the party seeking a protective order has the burden of showing that good cause exists exists for issuance of that order... [and] the obverse is also true, i.e. if good cause is not shown, the discovery materials in question should not receive judicial protection and therefore would be open to the public for inspection") (citation omitted).

Stephan's deposition was taken to advance a legitimate purpose, and the testimony elicited has direct probative value to this dispute. Attorney Cox did not himself take action other than to share the deposition transcript with an attorney in Florida. That the testimony reveals corporate practices that GMAC finds embarrassing is not enough to justify issuance of a protective order. Further, Plaintiff has failed to establish that GMAC has been harmed specifically as a result of the dissemination of the June 7, 2010 deposition transcript, given that similarly embarrassing deposition testimony from Stephan's December 10, 2009 Florida deposition also appears on the Internet, and will remain even were this Court to grant Plaintiff's motion. Accordingly, because Plaintiff has failed to satisfy its burden of persuasion under Rule 26(c), its Motion for Entry of Protective Order is denied.

In addition to seeking the reversal of this Court's previously granted Order for Partial Summary Judgment, the Defendant has moved for sanctions pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 56(g). This motion is granted in part, as explained below.

The facts underlying Defendant's motion are for the most part undisputed. Plaintiff does not dispute that its affiant, Jeffery Stephan, in his role as limited signing officer for GMAC, Plaintiff's servicing agent, signed the affidavit which Plaintiff submitted in support of its Motion for Summary Judgment without even reading it and without signing in the presence of a notary. These facts came into the record because the

Defendant went to the time and expense of traveling to Pennsylvania to take Stephan's deposition. In that deposition, which took place on June 7, 2010, Stephan testified that he signs some 400 documents per day, and that the process he follows in signing summary judgment affidavits is consistent with GMAC's policies and procedures.

The Court is particularly troubled by the fact that Stephan's deposition in this case is not the first time that GMAC's high-volume and careless approach to affidavit signing has been exposed. Stephan himself was deposed six months earlier, on December 10, 2009, in Florida. His Florida testimony is consistent with the testimony given in this case: except for some limited checking of figures, he signs summary judgment affidavits without first reading them and without appearing before a notary. Even more troubling, in addition to that Florida action, in May, 2006 another Florida court not only admonished GMAC, it sanctioned the Plaintiff lender for GMAC's affidavit signing practices. As part of its order, the Florida court required GMAC to file a Notice of Compliance, indicating its commitment to modify its affidavit signing procedures to conform to proper practices. The experience of this case reveals that, despite the Florida Court's order, GMAC's flagrant disregard apparently persists. It is well past the time for such practices to end.

Accordingly, Defendant asks that this Court impose sanctions pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 56(g), which provides:

Should it appear to the satisfaction of the court at any time that any of the affidavits presented pursuant to this rule are presented in bad faith or solely for the purpose of delay, the court shall forthwith order the party employing them to pay to the other party the amount of the reasonable expenses which the filing of the affidavits caused the other party to incur, including reasonable attorney's fees, and any offending party or attorney may be adjudged guilty of contempt.

Although there are no Maine Law Court cases applying it, the plain language of Rule 56(g) makes clear that the Court must determine, first, whether it appears "to the satisfaction of the court" that an affidavit submitted for summary judgment purposes was presented "in bad faith or solely for the purpose of delay." The Law Court has defined "bad faith", albeit in a different context: "Bad faith 'imports a dishonest purpose and implies wrongdoing or some motive of self-interest.' Bad faith means 'dishonesty of belief or purpose" Seacoast Hangar Condo. II Ass'n. v. Martel, 2001 ME 112 ¶ 21, 775 A.2d 1166, 1171-72 (citing a Utah case and Black's Law Dictionary). It is left to the Court's discretion to determine whether offending conduct rises to the level of "bad faith" such that Rule 56(g) sanctions are warranted. See, e.g., Cobell v. Norton, 214 F.R.D. 13, 20 (D.D.C. 2003) (noting that "as a practical matter a court has wide discretion in deciding what constitutes 'bad faith'") (citing Wright & Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure § 2742 (3d ed. 1998)). If a Court is satisfied that the affidavit was

¹ Seacoast Hangar's definition of "bad faith" occurred in the context of discussing the business judgment rule, which "does not insulate directors from liability for breach of their fiduciary duties if they 'acted primarily through bad faith or fraud" *Id.* at ¶ 20 n. 1, 775 A.2d at 1171 n.1 (citation omitted).

submitted in bad faith, then the mandatory language of Rule 56(g) requires that the Court forthwith order "the party employing [the affidavit] to pay to the other party the amount of the reasonable expenses which the filing of the affidavits caused the other party to incur, including reasonable attorney's fees." M.R.Civ. P. 56(g).

Both parties cite *Fort Hill Builders, Inc. v. National Grange Mut. Ins. Co.*, 866 F.2d 11 (1st Cir. 1989), in which the First Circuit analyzed the cases applying the Federal Rule 56(g) to conclude that the matters in which sanctions were imposed involved "particularly egregious" conduct. Characterizing its misconduct as a mere "procedural deficiency," Plaintiff urges the Court to find no bad faith; Defendant, on the other hand, argues that, on the spectrum of egregiousness, the conduct at issue more than meets the standard for bad faith under the rule.

The Court agrees with Defendant, and finds to its satisfaction that the Stephan affidavit was submitted in bad faith. Rather than being an isolated or inadvertent instance of misconduct, the Court finds that GMAC has persisted in its unlawful document signing practices long after and even in the face of the Florida Court's order, and that such conduct constitutes "bad faith" under Rule 56(g). These documents are submitted to a court with the intent that the court find a homeowner liable to the Plaintiff for thousands of dollars and subject to foreclosure on the debtor's residence. Filing such a document without significant regard for its accuracy, which the court in ordinary circumstances may never be able to investigate or otherwise verify, is a serious and troubling matter. Accordingly, the Court orders Plaintiff² to compensate Defendant's counsel for his attorney's fees and costs "which the filing of the Affidavit caused [him] to incur" – in other words, that Plaintiff pay Defendant's counsel for his time and expenses in preparing for and taking Stephan's deposition, as well as for his time and expenses in preparing for, filing, and prosecuting Defendant's Rule 56(g) motion.³

² As the Florida court imposed sanctions on the Plaintiff lender for GMAC's conduct, the Court likewise finds it appropriate to hold Plaintiff responsible for the conduct of its servicing agent, GMAC. Requiring Plaintiff to pay Defendant counsel's attorney's fees comports both with the language of Rule 56(g) (award of expenses should be ordered against party "employing" affidavits) as well as with principles of agency law. *See, e.g., Dupuis v. Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.*, 879 F. Supp. 139, 144 (D. Me. 1995) (holding that "[a]s a matter of agency law, it would be unfair for [the note and mortgage holder] to have the benefit of [the servicing agent's] servicing of the note and mortgage without also making [the note and mortgage holder] responsible for [the servicing agent's] excesses and failures").

The Court declines to award fees for opposing Plaintiff's summary judgment or protective order motions, because those tasks were not "caused" by the bad faith affidavit. Because the Court finds its award of attorney's fees and costs to be a sufficient sanction for Plaintiff's bad faith conduct, the Court declines to explore the issue of contempt in this case as requested by Defendant.

Defendant has ten days from the date of this order to file an affidavit setting forth his time spent, usual hourly rate,⁴ and expenses incurred in taking Stephan's deposition and filing and pursuing Defendant's Rule 56(g) motion. Plaintiff's written objection to Defendant's counsel's claimed expenses, if any, must be filed within seven days thereafter, and shall only address the sums claimed. The Court will thereupon issue an order setting forth the reasonable sum Plaintiff owes to Defendant's counsel.

The clerk shall docket this order by reference under Rule 79(a).

DATED:

Hon/Keith A. Powers, Judge

Maine District Court

⁴ That Defendant's counsel is entitled to an award of attorney's fees is not affected by the fact that he has labored in this case on a pro bono basis. *Cf., Foster v. Mydas Assoc., Inc.*, 943 F.2d 139, 144 n.7 (1st Cir. 1991) (noting that civil rights attorneys who work pro bono and prevail are usually awarded attorney's fees under civil rights statutes).

EXHIBIT 8

STANDARD TERMS OF POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT

Dated as of March 1, 2006

Residential Accredit Loans, Inc. Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates

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Section 2.06. <u>Conveyance of Uncertificated REMIC I and REMIC II Regular Interests;</u> <u>Acceptance by the Trustee.</u>

As provided in Section 2.06 of the Series Supplement.

Section 2.07. Issuance of Certificates Evidencing Interests in REMIC II.

As provided in Section 2.07 of the Series Supplement.

Section 2.08. Purposes and Powers of the Trust.

The purpose of the trust, as created hereunder, is to engage in the following activities:

- (a) to sell the Certificates to the Company in exchange for the Mortgage Loans;
- (b) to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement;
- (c) to engage in those activities that are necessary, suitable or convenient to accomplish the foregoing or are incidental thereto or connected therewith; and
- (d) subject to compliance with this Agreement, to engage in such other activities as may be required in connection with conservation of the Trust Fund and the making of distributions to the Certificateholders.

The trust is hereby authorized to engage in the foregoing activities. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 11.01, the trust shall not engage in any activity other than in connection with the foregoing or other than as required or authorized by the terms of this Agreement while any Certificate is outstanding, and this Section 2.08 may not be amended, without the consent of the Certificateholders evidencing a majority of the aggregate Voting Rights of the Certificates.

ARTICLE III

ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICING OF MORTGAGE LOANS

Section 3.01. Master Servicer to Act as Servicer.

(a) The Master Servicer shall service and administer the Mortgage Loans in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and the respective Mortgage Loans and shall have full power and authority, acting alone or through Subservicers as provided in Section 3.02, to do any and all things which it may deem necessary or desirable in connection with such servicing and administration. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Master Servicer in its own name or in the name of a Subservicer is hereby authorized and empowered by the Trustee when the Master Servicer or the Subservicer, as the case may be, believes it appropriate in its best judgment, to execute and deliver, on behalf of the Certificateholders and the Trustee or any of them, any and all instruments of satisfaction or cancellation, or of partial or full release or discharge, or of consent to assumption or modification in connection with a proposed

conveyance, or of assignment of any Mortgage and Mortgage Note in connection with the repurchase of a Mortgage Loan and all other comparable instruments, or with respect to the modification or re-recording of a Mortgage for the purpose of correcting the Mortgage, the subordination of the lien of the Mortgage in favor of a public utility company or government agency or unit with powers of eminent domain, the taking of a deed in lieu of foreclosure, the commencement, prosecution or completion of judicial or non-judicial foreclosure, the conveyance of a Mortgaged Property to the related Insurer, the acquisition of any property acquired by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure, or the management, marketing and conveyance of any property acquired by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure with respect to the Mortgage Loans and with respect to the Mortgaged Properties. The Master Servicer further is authorized and empowered by the Trustee, on behalf of the Certificateholders and the Trustee, in its own name or in the name of the Subservicer, when the Master Servicer or the Subservicer, as the case may be, believes it appropriate in its best judgment to register any Mortgage Loan on the MERS® System, or cause the removal from the registration of any Mortgage Loan on the MERS® System, to execute and deliver, on behalf of the Trustee and the Certificateholders or any of them, any and all instruments of assignment and other comparable instruments with respect to such assignment or re-recording of a Mortgage in the name of MERS, solely as nominee for the Trustee and its successors and assigns. Any expenses incurred in connection with the actions described in the preceding sentence shall be borne by the Master Servicer in accordance with Section 3.16(c), with no right of reimbursement; provided, that if, as a result of MERS discontinuing or becoming unable to continue operations in connection with the MERS System, it becomes necessary to remove any Mortgage Loan from registration on the MERS System and to arrange for the assignment of the related Mortgages to the Trustee, then any related expenses shall be reimbursable to the Master Servicer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, subject to Section 3.07(a), the Master Servicer shall not permit any modification with respect to any Mortgage Loan that would both constitute a sale or exchange of such Mortgage Loan within the meaning of Section 1001 of the Code and any proposed, temporary or final regulations promulgated thereunder (other than in connection with a proposed conveyance or assumption of such Mortgage Loan that is treated as a Principal Prepayment in Full pursuant to Section 3.13(d) hereof) and cause any REMIC formed under the Series Supplement to fail to qualify as a REMIC under the Code. The Trustee shall furnish the Master Servicer with any powers of attorney and other documents necessary or appropriate to enable the Master Servicer to service and administer the Mortgage Loans. The Trustee shall not be liable for any action taken by the Master Servicer or any Subservicer pursuant to such powers of attorney. In servicing and administering any Nonsubserviced Mortgage Loan, the Master Servicer shall, to the extent not inconsistent with this Agreement, comply with the Program Guide as if it were the originator of such Mortgage Loan and had retained the servicing rights and obligations in respect thereof. In connection with servicing and administering the Mortgage Loans, the Master Servicer and any Affiliate of the Master Servicer (i) may perform services such as appraisals and brokerage services that are not customarily provided by servicers of mortgage loans, and shall be entitled to reasonable compensation therefor in accordance with Section 3.10 and (ii) may, at its own discretion and on behalf of the Trustee, obtain credit information in the form of a "credit score" from a credit repository.

(b) All costs incurred by the Master Servicer or by Subservicers in effecting the timely payment of taxes and assessments on the properties subject to the Mortgage Loans shall not, for the purpose of calculating monthly distributions to the Certificateholders, be added to the